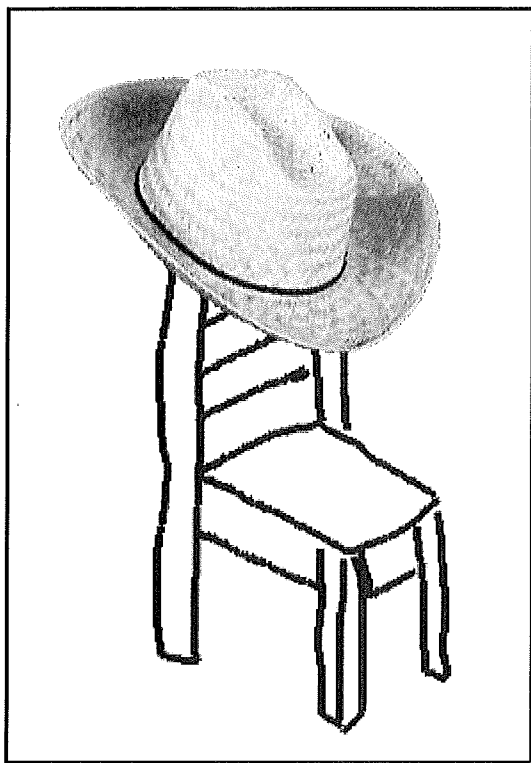


EXHIBIT 9



Young farmer favored for House seat

by David Ammons | March 24th, 2009



A 25-year-old farmer, Jacob (Jake) Anderson of White Salmon in the Columbia Gorge, is the frontrunner for a state House vacancy created when Republican Representative Dan Newhouse joined the Democratic Gregoire Administration as state ag director.

Anderson, the youngest of a long list of applicants, was tapped by Republican precinct committee officers over the weekend as their top pick, the Yakima Herald-Republic reports. David Taylor of Moxee and Don Vlieger of Sunnyside got the other two spots on a list that will be forwarded to county commissioners from Yakima, Klickitat, Skamania and Clark. The Yakima Herald-Republican reported that the commissioners will make their pick sometime next month — leaving the new lawmaker little time to serve before the regular session ends on April 26.

Usual protocol is to follow the PCOs' wishes. The appointee will have to face the voters later this year. Candidates will file in June and if more than two file, a Top 2 Primary in August will determine the two finalists. If only one or two people file, the election will skip directly to the November 3 General Election. The state House now has 62 Democrats and 36 Republicans. The 15th District is considered solidly Republican.

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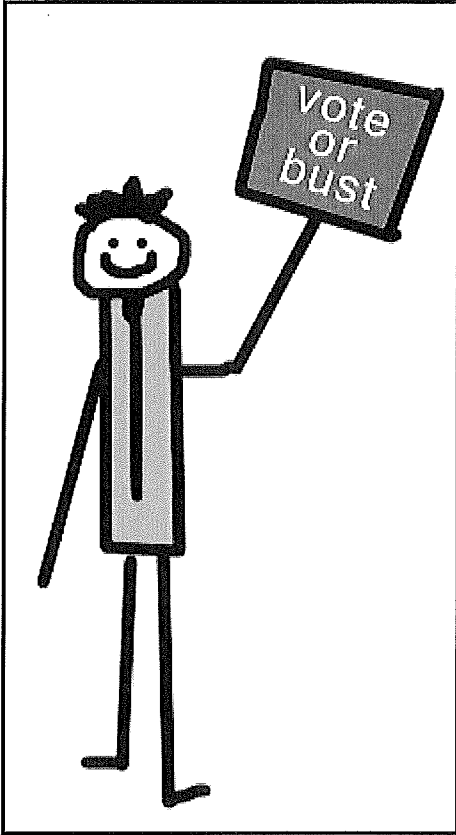
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EXHIBIT 10



Simpler, cheaper to run for local office

by David Ammons | March 29th, 2010



Precinct committee officers (PCOs), the basic building block for the political parties, will be elected as part of the statewide primary on Aug. 17. Thanks to a **streamlining bill** that was passed at the request of the Secretary of State, **the \$1 filing fee is no longer required, and PCO candidates can file online.**

The filings will be done with the County Auditor. Before the law change, a single-county candidate could file in their home county or with the Secretary of State. In the case of PCOs, hundreds of candidates were filing with the state and others were filing with their county, making it harder to track whether a competitor had filed against a candidate. Now the filing will be with the person's home county. The bill also repealed the \$1 filing fee, which actually cost some counties more to process than they got in revenue. Other non-salaried offices also are exempt from the filing fee.

Precinct committee officers organize their local precinct for their party and serve as members of the legislative district and county organization. They help fill vacancies.


2 Responses to "Simpler, cheaper to run for local office"



1. Richard says:

April 1, 2010 at 10:01 PM

Thanks for doing something good. We appreciate it.

2.  kpmedia says:
April 6, 2010 at 4:39 AM

That will surely help local election confusion. The online age is helping quite a bit.

What always gets me about local candidates is they too often overlook the value of having a great website for themselves. In the digital age, you can be judged by younger voters if your web site looks bad. Some of us can do great sites for as little as \$200, which is a steal. I'm still amazed at the junk I saw in November 2008. Maybe it's a coincidence, but the losing candidate often had the worst site. Hmmm...

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EXHIBIT 11

AN OBSERVER'S GUIDE *to* WASHINGTON STATE ELECTIONS



Washington
Secretary of State
SAM REED

ELECTIONS DIVISION

OBSERVERS

Day. The results can only be printed after 8:00 p.m.

Political Party Observers should watch the delivery, opening, processing, counting and storing of the ballots.

RCW 29A.48.060

One race can be counted by hand in up to three precincts to check against the printed results. The major political parties must agree to the precincts and the race to be counted.

Counties that Count Ballots at the Poll Site**RCW 29A.44.330****RCW 29A.60.060**

When the polls close, the ballot counters at the poll site print out the results for each precinct. The results are also saved on a disk or cartridge. The results then may or may not be sent over telephone lines to a counting center. The printed results, disk or cartridge, and other supplies are delivered to the counting center. If the results were not sent over telephone lines, the results will be loaded from the disk or cartridge onto a computer. Absentee ballots may also be processed throughout the day.

RCW 29A.60.170

One race can be counted by hand in up to three precincts to check against the printed results. The major political parties must agree to the precincts and race, and notify the County Auditor or Elections Department within 30 minutes of the polls closing.

RCW 29A.60.060

Observers are encouraged to watch the delivery of the materials to the counting center, the loading of the results onto the computer, and the processing, counting, storing and securing of absentee ballots and poll site election results.

Counties that Count Ballots at a Counting Center**RCW 29A.60.110**

When the polls close, the precinct election officers bring the ballots, poll books, and supplies into the counting center. The ballots are checked in, inspected, duplicated when necessary, and then counted. Absentee ballots may also be processed throughout the day.

RCW 29A.44.280**RCW 29A.60.110****RCW 29A.60.170**

Political Party Observers are encouraged to observe the delivery, opening, inspection, processing, duplication, counting, storing, and securing of the poll site and absentee ballots.

GLOSSARY

Glossary

Ballot Duplication. The process of making an exact copy of a ballot to make sure it will be counted correctly by a ballot counting system.

Ballot Counter. A machine that tabulates votes in a readable format. Also known as a vote tallying system.

Ballot Inspection. Each ballot must be inspected for errant marks or damage that would prevent the votes being counted correctly by a vote tallying system.

County Canvassing Board. The Board is made up of the County Auditor (in King County it is the Records, Elections and Licensing Services Division Director), County Prosecuting Attorney, and the chair of the County Commission or County Council.

Counting Center. The location in a county where ballots are processed and counted. In the case of counties that have ballot counters at the poll site, it is where the results from the polls are combined into one set of election results.

Direct Recording Electronic (DRE). A touch screen or other device which allows disabled voters to vote without assistance. This type of voting equipment is required by the federal Help America Vote Act.

Election Observer. Official observer appointed by one of the major political parties. May not be an election worker hired to process ballots. An Election Observer is not a poll watcher.

Poll Watcher. An individual associated with a political party, candidate, or organization to observe and record the activities at a poll site.

Precinct Election Officers. The people who run elections at each poll site.

Provisional Ballots. A ballot issued when the voter's name is not on the voter list, was sent an absentee or mail ballot and asked to vote at a poll site instead, did not have identification at the poll site, or any other reason when a voter can not vote a regular ballot.

Secure Storage. Locations provided for the storage of all material connected with the mail ballot process. They are under the direct control of the County Auditor (in King County it is the Records, Elections and Licensing Services Division). Secure storage employs the use of numbered seals and logs or any other security measures which will detect inappropriate access to secured materials.

Tabulate. To total votes in a readable format.

UOCAVA. Acronym for the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.

EXHIBIT 12

their membership constitutes a severe burden on political parties' associational rights." *Id.*

The State filed a timely Petition For A Writ Of Certiorari, which was granted.

SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT

1. In the early days of the Republic, state government did not regulate how political parties chose their candidates. It was left entirely up to the parties. In Washington, in 1889, a party could nominate a candidate at a convention, primary meeting or primary election. Later, states began to require political parties to choose their nominees in primary elections governed by state law. The party nominees thus chosen would automatically advance to the general election ballot. Washington imposed the primary election requirement in 1907. This had the effect of combining the function of nominating party candidates for the general election ballot, and the function of winnowing the number of candidates who would appear on the general election ballot. And by this action, the political parties became part of the election machinery, not just purely private associations, and began to be regulated by the states.

The top-two qualifying primary established by Initiative 872 represents a major paradigm shift. Initiative 872 separates the function of choosing party candidates from the function of reducing the number of candidates on the general election ballot. Like Washington law in 1889, the Initiative removes the state entirely from the party nominating process. Parties are free to adopt any system they choose to select their candidates. The only function served by the top two primary is to winnow the number of

candidates who will advance to the general election. Under Initiative 872 only the top two vote-getters advance to the general election, regardless of party affiliation. Initiative 872 does not violate the political parties First Amendment right of association. Indeed, by removing the state from the party nominating process, the Initiative furthers important First Amendment rights of association.

2. In *California Democratic Party v. Jones*, 530 U.S. 567 (2000) the Court struck down California's blanket primary because voters who were not affiliated with a political party helped to choose the party's nominees in the primary election. This violated the party's First Amendment right of association. The Court explained that states were free to adopt a nonpartisan blanket primary. The difference between a nonpartisan blanket primary and a partisan blanket primary is that in a nonpartisan primary the voters are not choosing the nominee of the political party who will advance to the general election ballot. Instead, the top two vote-getters advance to the general election, regardless of party affiliation.

The top-two qualifying primary established by Initiative 872 is a nonpartisan primary. Candidates may access the primary election ballot simply by filing a declaration of candidacy. In the primary election, all the candidates compete for the votes of all the voters, and the top two vote-getters advance to the general election without regard to party affiliation. This system does not violate the parties' First Amendment right of association because the voters are not choosing the party nominee. Rather, the voters are reducing the number of candidates

EXHIBIT 13

RCW 29.42.050

REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON 1991

*** ARCHIVE MATERIAL ***

THIS DOCUMENT IS CURRENT THROUGH THE 1991 SUPPLEMENT (1991 SESSIONS)

TITLE 29 ELECTIONS
CHAPTER 29.42 POLITICAL PARTIES*RCW 29.42.050 (1991)*

29.42.050 Precinct committee officer-----Election-----Declaration of candidacy, fee-----Term-----Vacancy

The statutory requirements for filing as a candidate at the primaries shall apply to candidates for precinct committee officer except that the filing period for this office alone shall be extended to and include the Friday immediately following the last day for political parties to fill vacancies in the ticket as provided by RCW 29.18.150, and the office shall not be voted upon at the primaries, but the names of all candidates must appear under the proper party and office designations on the ballot for the general November election for each even-numbered year and the one receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected: PROVIDED, That to be declared elected, a candidate must receive at least ten percent of the number of votes cast for the candidate of the candidate's party receiving the greatest number of votes in the precinct. Any person elected to the office of precinct committee officer who has not filed a declaration of candidacy shall pay the fee of one dollar to the county auditor for a certificate of election. The term of office of precinct committee officer shall be for two years, commencing upon completion of the official canvass of votes by the county canvassing board of election returns. Should any vacancy occur in this office by reason of death, resignation, or disqualification of the incumbent, or because of failure to elect, the respective county chair of the county central committee shall be empowered to fill such vacancy by appointment: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That in legislative districts having a majority of its precincts in a county with a population of one million or more, such appointment shall be made only upon the recommendation of the legislative district chair: PROVIDED, That the person so appointed shall have the same qualifications as candidates when filing for election to such office for such precinct: PROVIDED FURTHER, That when a vacancy in the office of precinct committee officer exists because of failure to elect at a state general election, such vacancy shall not be filled until after the organization meeting of the county central committee and the new county chair selected as provided by RCW 29.42.030.

HISTORY: 1991 c 363 § 34; 1987 c 295 § 14; 1973 c 4 § 7; 1967 ex.s. c 32 § 2; 1965 ex.s. c 103 § 3; 1965 c 9 § 29.42.050. Prior: 1961 c 130 § 6; prior: 1953 c 196 § 1; 1943 c 178 § 1, part; 1939 c 48 § 1, part; 1927 c 200 § 1, part; 1925 ex.s. c 158 § 1, part; 1909 c 82 § 6, part; 1907 c 209 § 22, part; Rem. Supp. 1943 § 5198, part.

NOTES:

Purpose-----Captions not law-----1991 c 363: See notes following RCW 2.32.180.

Severability-----1967 ex.s. c 32: See note following RCW 29.42.070.

Notice of general election, office to be indicated: RCW 29.04.020.

EXHIBIT 14



Sunnyside ...up

by David Ammons | February 13th, 2009



That would be Republican lawmaker Dan Newhouse of Sunnyside. He's Democratic Gov. Chris Gregoire's pick for state ag director. Crossing the political aisle for a top cabinet appointment is pretty unusual for a governor, but the early buzz about Newhouse was that it was an excellent move by Gregoire and that Newhouse will easily be confirmed by the state Senate.


Newhouse, who operates a farm and orchards, has been considered a rising GOP star. He's the son of the late Sen. Irv Newhouse, for whom the Senate Republican office building is named. Dan Newhouse, now in his fourth term, is the Republican floor leader in the House and has been touted as a potential successor to Congressman Doc Hastings.

The state Elections Division says Newhouse's House successor will be chosen this way: Republican precinct committee officers from throughout the sprawling 15th District will chose a ranked-order list of three favorites and the county commissioners from Yakima, Klickitat, Skamania and Clark will pick an appointee to send to Olympia post-haste...

Typical protocol is for the commissioners to choose the top choice of the grassroots leaders, but no law requires it. If the commissioners deadlock, the governor will pick from the Top 3 list. The seat will be up for election this fall. If more than two candidates file during Filing Week, a Top 2 Primary will be held in August. The final vote is in November for the year remaining on Newhouse's unexpired term.

Newhouse's surprise departure is the third multi-county House vacancy since the November election — very unusual. Reps. Bill Grant, D-Walla Walla, and Steve Hailey, R-Mesa, died. Former Rep. Don Cox has been sworn in to replaced Hailey; the Grant successor has not been selected.

One Response to "Sunnyside ...up"

1.  *uFC betting* says:
March 13, 2009 at 12:12 PM

Interesting article, i have bookmarked your blog for future reference

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EXHIBIT 15

OSOS | English
Ballot Secrecy

Graphic Mode

Most Frequently Asked Questions

Is how I voted secret?

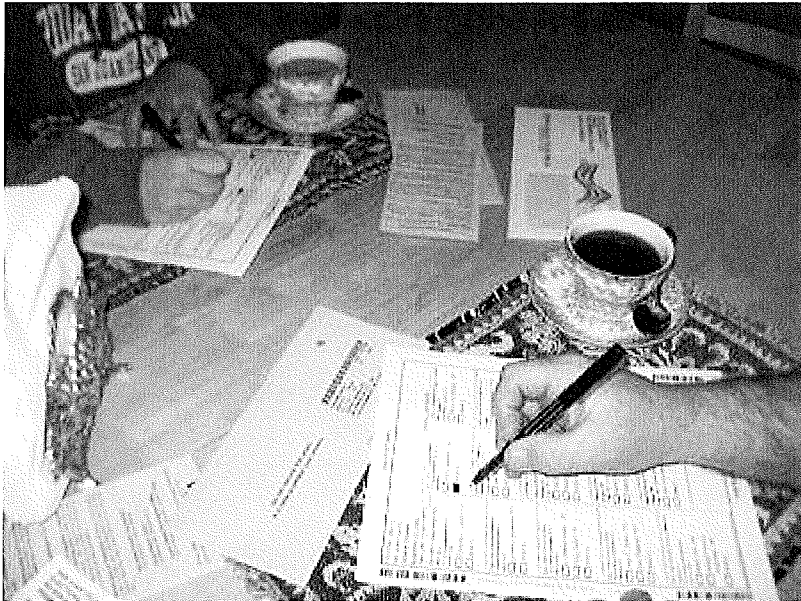
Yes. Secrecy of the ballot is mandated by Washington State law and is upheld in all elections.

Can how I vote get tracked back to me?

No. No election official can trace a ballot back to a particular voter.

How does my ballot remain anonymous?

The voter places the voted ballot in the inner security envelope, and then places the security envelope in the outer return envelope for mailing back to the County Auditor's Office.



Once the voter's signature on the outer return envelope is verified, the outer return envelope that contains the voter's name and address is opened and separated from the inner security envelope that contains the voted ballot.

Before the inner security envelope may be opened, it is mixed in with many other security envelopes. This allows the ballot to remain anonymous. Only once the security envelope is mixed in with other security envelopes may the ballot be removed. This maintains the secrecy of the ballot.

Is this process observed by any outsiders?

In every county, political party observers are invited to observe the entire election process. You will find more detailed information in "An Observer's Guide to Washington State Elections".

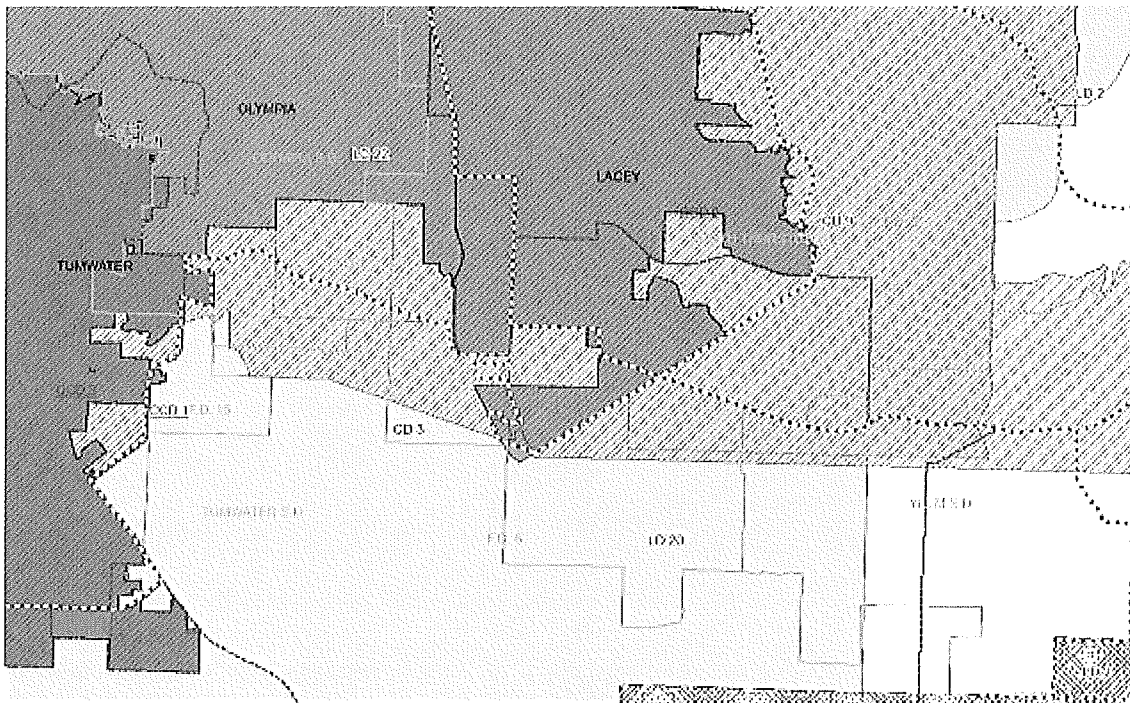
Many counties, including King and Pierce, have public viewing areas for the public and press. For example, King and Pierce Counties have areas that allow any member of the public to observe ballot processing. Election workers separate the outer envelope, which identifies the voter, from the inner security envelope, which contains the voted ballot, and mix the inner security envelopes together to maintain the anonymity of the ballot.

Why don't all voters receive the same ballot?

Each county includes dozens, sometimes hundreds, of government jurisdictions. The jurisdictions have boundaries that meet and overlap in various locations. For example, each county has:

- Congressional district boundaries;
- Legislative district boundaries;
- County council or county commissioner district boundaries;
- Court of Appeals district boundaries;
- District Court district boundaries;
- City boundaries;
- Port district boundaries;
- School district boundaries;
- Fire district boundaries;
- Sewer district boundaries;
- Hospital district boundaries.

The boundary lines of these jurisdictions do not line up, but instead begin and end at various locations.



One residence may be located in School District A, while another residence a few blocks away is located in School District B. These two households may be located in the same congressional district, and therefore eligible to vote in the same congressional race, but are located in different school districts, and therefore not eligible to vote in the same school district race.

The location of a voter's residence is pivotal to determining in which jurisdictions the voter is eligible to vote, and therefore which ballot the voter receives. In the example above, the voter in the first residence would receive a ballot that includes an election for School District A, while a voter in the second residence would receive a ballot that includes an election for School District B.

Jurisdictions often have two types of elections: ballot measures and public office (candidate races). Some jurisdictions hold their elections for public office in even-numbered years, while other jurisdictions hold their

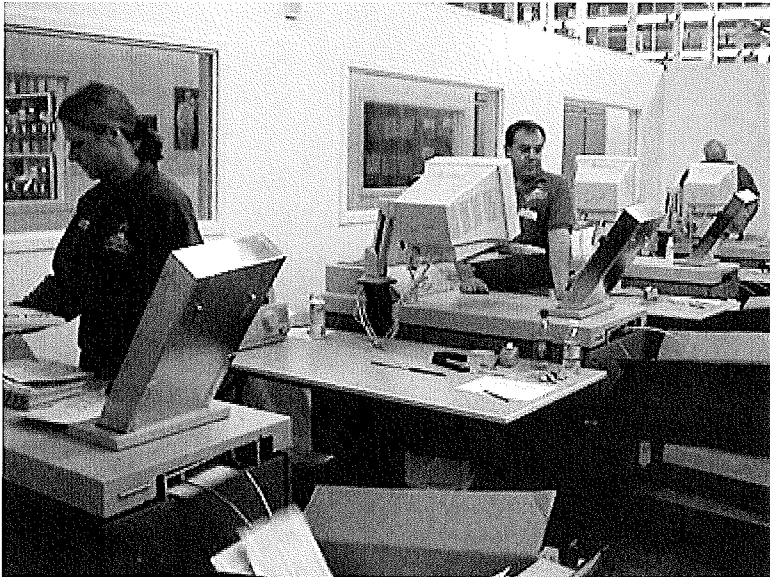
elections for public office in odd-numbered years.

Why is there a barcode on my ballot?

Where one boundary line ends and another begins often dictates the shape of an election precinct. Voters in one precinct are eligible to vote on one set of ballot measures and candidate races, while voters in the neighboring precinct are eligible to vote on a slightly different set of ballot measures and candidate races, all based on the set of jurisdictions that cover that precinct.

The variations in jurisdictions precinct-to-precinct result in different ballot formats. A county may have dozens, or even thousands, of ballot formats for one election.

Ballots are tabulated on optical scan and digital scan tabulating equipment. The equipment must be able to determine the ballot format for every ballot. Bar codes on each ballot allow the tabulation equipment to immediately determine the ballot format of that ballot, which allows the equipment to correctly read the ballot.



Without the bar codes, the equipment would not know which candidate races were printed on the ballot, and therefore would not be able to determine which candidates had received votes. The bar codes are unique to each election.

I heard that some ballots have a bar code unique to that ballot. Why?

Some Washington counties print a unique bar code or serial number for each ballot. These bar codes or serial numbers do not identify to whom the ballot was issued. Secrecy is maintained when the security envelopes that contain the voted ballots are mixed together. The ballot is not linked to the voter in any way.

Bar codes or serial numbers that are unique to each ballot ensure that the same ballot is not tabulated twice.

Unique bar codes provide a more efficient method for reconciling the number of ballots tabulated, with the number of voters credited with returning a ballot.

Bar codes or serial numbers that are unique to each ballot can also be used to verify that the ballot was issued by the County Auditor's Office, screening out counterfeit or "look alike" ballots.

Since the unique bar codes or serial numbers are not linked to a voter, they cannot be used to identify a voter.

Why is there a barcode on my outer envelope?

A barcode on an outer envelope is similar to a tracking bar code used by a commercial shipping company. The outer envelope contains the voter's name and address. Once the outer envelope is received by the County Auditor's Office, the bar code is scanned to quickly identify the voter to whom this envelope was issued and therefore which voter is returning a ballot.

The use of a bar code is much more efficient and accurate than reading each outer envelope, typing in the voter's name, and identifying the correct voter in the county voter registration system.



Once the bar code identifies the voter in the voter registration system, the signature on the outer envelope is compared to the signature in the voter registration file to verify that the person who signed the envelope was the registered voter.

6/30/09

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EXHIBIT 16

RCW 29.36.030

REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON 1991

*** ARCHIVE MATERIAL ***

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TITLE 29 ELECTIONS
CHAPTER 29.36 ABSENTEE VOTING*RCW 29.36.030 (1991)*

FIRST OF TWO VERSIONS OF THIS SECTION

29.36.030 Acceptance or rejection of application----Issuance of ballots and other materials. (Effective until July 1, 1992.)

Upon receipt of a signed application for an absentee ballot from a registered voter, the county auditor shall verify the applicant's signature. If the application is complete and correct and the applicant is qualified to vote under federal or state law, the county auditor shall issue an absentee ballot for the primary or election for which the absentee ballot was requested. Otherwise, the county auditor shall notify the applicant of the reason or reasons why the application cannot be accepted.

At each general election in an even-numbered year, each absentee voter shall also be given a separate ballot containing the names of the candidates that have filed for the office of precinct committee officer unless fewer than two candidates have filed for the same political party in the absentee voter's precinct. The ballot shall provide space for writing in the name of additional candidates.

When mailing an absentee ballot to a registered voter temporarily outside the state or to an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or service voter, the county auditor shall send a copy of the state voters' and candidates' pamphlet with the absentee ballot. The county auditor shall mail all absentee ballots and related material to voters outside the territorial limits of the United States and the District of Columbia under *39 U.S.C. 3406*.

HISTORY: 1987 c 346 § 11; 1987 c 295 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 361 § 77; 1974 ex.s. c 73 § 1; 1965 c 9 § 29.36.030. Prior: 1963 ex.s. c 23 § 3; 1955 c 167 § 4; prior: (i) 1933 ex.s. c 41 § 2, part; 1923 c 58 § 2, part; 1921 c 143 § 2, part; 1917 c 159 § 2, part; 1915 c 189 § 2, part; RRS § 5281, part. (ii) 1933 ex.s. c 41 § 3, part; 1923 c 58 § 3, part; 1921 c 143 § 3, part; 1917 c 159 § 3, part; 1915 c 189 § 3, part; RRS § 5282, part.

NOTES:

Reviser's note: This section was amended by 1987 c 295 § 9 and by 1987 c 346 § 11, each without reference to the other. Both amendments are incorporated in the publication of this section pursuant to RCW 1.12.025(2). For rule of construction, see RCW 1.12.025(1).

Legislative intent----Effective date----1987 c 346: See notes following RCW 29.36.010.

Effective date----Severability----1977 ex.s. c 361: See notes following RCW 29.01.006.

SECOND OF TWO VERSIONS OF THIS SECTION

29.36.030 Acceptance or rejection of request----Issuance of ballots and other materials. (Effective July 1, 1992.)

If the information contained in a request for an absentee ballot received by the county auditor is complete and correct and the applicant is qualified to vote under federal or state law, the county auditor shall issue an absentee ballot for the primary or election for which the absentee ballot was requested. Otherwise, the county auditor shall notify the applicant of the reason or reasons why the request cannot be accepted.

RCW 29.36.030

At each general election in an even-numbered year, each absentee voter shall also be given a separate ballot containing the names of the candidates that have filed for the office of precinct committee officer unless fewer than two candidates have filed for the same political party in the absentee voter's precinct. The ballot shall provide space for writing in the name of additional candidates.

When mailing an absentee ballot to a registered voter temporarily outside the state or to an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or service voter, the county auditor shall send a copy of the state voters' and candidates' pamphlet with the absentee ballot. The county auditor shall mail all absentee ballots and related material to voters outside the territorial limits of the United States and the District of Columbia under *39 U.S.C. 3406*.

HISTORY: 1991 c 81 § 31. Prior: 1987 c 346 § 11; 1987 c 295 § 9; 1977 ex.s. c 361 § 77; 1974 ex.s. c 73 § 1; 1965 c 9 § 29.36.030; prior: 1963 ex.s. c 23 § 3; 1955 c 167 § 4; prior: (i) 1933 ex.s. c 41 § 2, part; 1923 c 58 § 2, part; 1921 c 143 § 2, part; 1917 c 159 § 2, part; 1915 c 189 § 2, part; RRS § 5281, part. (ii) 1933 ex.s. c 41 § 3, part; 1923 c 58 § 3, part; 1921 c 143 § 3, part; 1917 c 159 § 3, part; 1915 c 189 § 3, part; RRS § 5282, part.

NOTES:

Effective date----1991 c 81: See note following RCW 29.85.010.

Legislative intent----Effective date----1987 c 346: See notes following RCW 29.36.010.

Effective date----Severability----1977 ex.s. c 361: See notes following RCW 29.01.006.

EXHIBIT 17

2010



Election Information

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Election Observers

The role of the observer is vastly different than that of the election worker. As an observer it is important to understand the election process but observers are prohibited by law from touching or handling any ballots, where as the election worker is at the election center to complete an individual task, but not necessarily know the complete process.

The official observer program is dictated by State law and is a formal agreement between the political party and the Jefferson County Auditor. If you have any questions, please direct them to the County Auditor or Chief Deputy Auditor.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Official Observer

1. To provide a truly independent perspective of the election.
2. To be at Central Count on time and to follow the Observer Guidelines.
3. Wear your badge identifying you and your party.
4. Bring questions and concerns to the attention of the County Auditor or Chief Deputy Auditor.
5. To observe all aspects of the mail ballot processing.

